

The following were elected as Officers and Council for the year 1902 :

President.—E. A. Smith, F.Z.S., etc.

Vice-Presidents.—W. T. Blanford, LL.D., F.R.S., etc.; Rev. Canon A. Merle Norman, D.C.L., F.R.S., etc.; E. R. Sykes, B.A., F.L.S., etc.; Henry Woodward, LL.D., F.R.S., etc.

Treasurer.—J. H. Ponsonby, F.Z.S., etc.

Secretary.—R. H. Burne, B.A., F.Z.S., etc.

Editor.—B. B. Woodward, F.L.S., etc.

Other Members of Council.—Rev. R. Ashington Bullen, F.L.S., etc.; G. C. Crick, F.G.S., etc.; Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen, F.R.S., etc.; G. K. Gude, F.Z.S., etc.; Professor G. B. Howes, LL.D., F.R.S., etc.; S. Pace, F.Z.S., etc.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Retiring Officers, the Auditors, and the Scrutineers.

The President, Mr. E. A. Smith, made some remarks on the supposed similarity in the Mollusca of the Arctic and Antarctic regions. He dealt specifically with eleven species stated to be common to the two faunas, and expressed the view that the evidence of specific identity was not sufficiently strong to justify the conclusions that had been drawn.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

Professor RALPH TATE, F.G.S., etc., who joined this Society in 1894, was born at Alnwick in 1840, and was educated at Cheltenham Training College, whence he went in 1857 to the Royal School of Mines. After teaching for a time at the Polytechnic he went to Belfast as teacher of Natural Science at the Philosophical Institution, where he principally interested himself in Botany, non-marine Conchology, and Palæontology. In 1861 he became a Fellow of the Geological Society, and in March, 1864, obtained the post of Assistant Curator to that Society, and worked at their collection, especially the South African fossils. At the same time he did not neglect his botany, while in 1866 he brought out his "Plain and easy account of the Land and Fresh-water Mollusks of Great Britain," which at the time was the best book of its kind. Such was the merit of his work in these different lines that he had the distinction of being elected an Associate of the Linnean Society in April, 1867. He was elected a Fellow of that Society in December, 1883, but withdrew in 1896.

In 1867 he was sent by the Central America Association on an exploring expedition to Nicaragua, and in the succeeding year to the province of Guyana in Venezuela, the conchological results of which were contributed to the American Journal of Conchology.

Subsequently he conducted mining classes at Bristol, and in 1868 brought out his "Appendix" to S. P. Woodward's "Manual of the Mollusca."

In 1871 he was appointed teacher to the Mining School established by the Cleveland Ironmasters, first at Darlington and then at Redcar, until in 1875 he obtained the post of Professor of Natural Science on the Elder Foundation at the University of South Australia in Adelaide. Here the serious work of his life began, and he worked at it with all his energy. In addition to his professorial duties he devoted himself to the advancement of science in the land of his adoption, and by his untiring efforts largely assisted in raising it to its present status. The "Philosophical Society," when he went out, was not altogether a flourishing body, but he persuaded others to join him in publishing original articles in its proceedings, instead of sending them to more widely known European journals, and so increase the utility of the Society, which, under his presidency (1878-80), became the "Royal Society of South Australia." In all some ninety odd papers were contributed to its volumes by him; some few of these were on botany or general geology, and about thirty on recent mollusca, but the greater number were on the fossil mollusca of the Tertiary beds of the Australian Continent. Other papers of his on the same subject appeared in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania, of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, and of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science, of which he was president in 1893. Out of the 380 species recognized by Mr. G. F. Harris in his "Catalogue of Tertiary Australian Mollusca in the British Museum," 225 are species established by Tate, an index to the amount and value of his labours!

In the Autumn of 1896 he paid a visit to England, and contributed to the Proceedings of this Society a paper "On the discovery of a recent species of *Arcoperna*" (Proc. Malac. Soc., vol. ii, p. 181).

He continued to work on with unflagging zeal until the Summer of 1900, when heart trouble became serious, and he finally succumbed to the malady on September 20th. His very last work was "A revised Census of the Marine Mollusca of Tasmania," undertaken in association with Mr. W. L. May (Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales, 1901, pt. 3), of which he was only able to finally complete the first 24 pages, the task of seeing the rest of the work through the press devolving on his co-author, assisted by Mr. C. Hedley.

A full list of his scientific writings will be found appended to the memoir of him by Professor Blake (Geol. Mag., 1902, p. 87), to which we are mainly indebted for the foregoing details.

WILLIAM MAHON DALY was born in the early sixties on the Shevaroy Hills in the Madras Presidency, India, where his father was the owner of a coffee plantation. The son was brought up in India, and in time succeeded, with his elder brother, to the management of his father's estate. This he left about 1895 to take charge of a coffee plantation in the Kadur district of Mysore, where he obtained the specimens of the new genus *Mulleria*, named in his honour *M. Dalyi*, by E. A. Smith (Proc. Malac. Soc., vol. iii, p. 14).¹ In 1898 he received

¹ The anatomy of this species was described later (Proc. Malac. Soc., vol. iii, p. 87) by the late Martin F. Woodward, from specimens obtained by Mr. H. Bonner.

an appointment in the Forest Department of Siam, and was stationed for some time at Pitsunaloke, some 200 miles due north of Bangkok, and subsequently at Lampoon, further north near Chieng Mai. He died of fever about November, 1900, when on his way to the last-named place to obtain medical treatment. Mr. Daly became a member of the Malacological Society in 1894. [*From notes supplied by Dr. W. T. Blanford.*]

ORDINARY MEETING.

FRIDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY, 1902.

E. A. SMITH, F.Z.S., etc., President, in the Chair.

Percy F. Kensett was elected to membership of the Society.

Exhibits were placed on the table by the following :—

Dr. H. C. Sorby : Specimens of British Mollusca and lantern slides of the same, demonstrating methods for preserving the natural colours.

B. B. Woodward : Lantern slides showing molluscan Shell Characters.

G. K. Gude : Drawings of Helicoid Land-Shells.

G. B. Sowerby : Types of Marine Molluscs from the collection of the late M. Thomas.

H. Fulton : Type-specimens of new species and varieties of Land-Shells from New Guinea.

H. B. Preston : A collection of Darts of British Helicidæ.

E. A. Smith : Specimens of *Isomeria orcas* (Koch) with remarkable thickening of the peristome.

F. G. Bridgman : A small form of *Physa fontinalis* (Linn.) from near Norwich.

ORDINARY MEETING.

FRIDAY, 14TH MARCH, 1902.

E. A. SMITH, F.Z.S., etc., President, in the Chair.

Miss Mary L. Hett, Archibald Campbell, and F. G. Bridgman were elected to membership of the Society.

The following communications were read :—

1. "List of Marine Shells collected near Aden from 1892 to 1901." By Commander E. R. Shopland.

2. "On Non-Marine Mollusca from the Holocene of Westminster and London Wall." By A. S. Kennard and B. B. Woodward, F.L.S., etc.

3. "Note on *Cypræa microdon* of Gray." By E. A. Smith, F.Z.S., etc.

Exhibits were placed on the table by the following :—

B. B. Woodward : Specimens of *Assimineæ Grayana* (Leach) from Ribe, Denmark. Hitherto the species had been found only in Kent and the Thames Valley.

S. Pace : A collection of the species of Columbelloidæ occurring near Aden.